

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

31 January 2019

Mr. Beryl Lipton  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 37467  
411A Highland Avenue  
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Reference: F-2017-01684

Dear Mr. Lipton:

This is a final response to your 9 May 2017 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for **all materials associated with CADREREFID C00136136, labeled “Cable from Lincoln re: Pending Defection of Pilots.”** We processed your request in accordance with the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552, as amended, and the CIA Information Act, 50 U.S.C. § 3141, as amended.

We completed a thorough search for records responsive to your request and located three documents, consisting of 14 pages, which we can release in segregable form with deletions made on the basis of FOIA exemptions (b)(1) and (b)(3). Copies of the documents and an explanation of exemptions are enclosed. Exemption (b)(3) pertains to information exempt from disclosure by statute. The relevant statutes are Section 6 of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, as amended, and Section 102A(i)(l) of the National Security Act of 1947, as amended. As the CIA Information and Privacy Coordinator, I am the CIA official responsible for this determination. You have the right to appeal this response to the Agency Release Panel, in my care, within 90 days from the date of this letter. Please include the basis of your appeal.

If you have any questions regarding our response, you may contact us at:

Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, DC 20505  
Information and Privacy Coordinator  
703-613-3007 (Fax)

Please be advised that you may seek dispute resolution services from the CIA's FOIA Public Liaison or from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) of the National Archives and Records Administration. OGIS offers mediation services to help resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies. You may reach CIA's FOIA Public Liaison at:

703-613-1287 (FOIA Hotline)

The contact information for OGIS is:

Office of Government Information Services  
National Archives and Records Administration  
8601 Adelphi Road – OGIS  
College Park, MD 20740-6001  
202-741-5770  
877-864-6448  
202-741-5769 (fax)  
ogis@nara.gov

Contacting the CIA's FOIA Public Liaison or OGIS does not affect your right to pursue an administrative appeal.

Sincerely,



Allison Fong  
Information and Privacy Coordinator

Enclosures

## **Explanation of Exemptions**

### **Freedom of Information Act:**

- (b)(1) exempts from disclosure information currently and properly classified, pursuant to an Executive Order;
- (b)(2) exempts from disclosure information which pertains solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of the Agency;
- (b)(3) exempts from disclosure information that another federal statute protects, provided that the other federal statute either requires that the matters be withheld, or establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld. The (b)(3) statutes upon which the CIA relies include, but are not limited to, the CIA Act of 1949;
- (b)(4) exempts from disclosure trade secrets and commercial or financial information that is obtained from a person and that is privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) exempts from disclosure inter-and intra-agency memoranda or letters that would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) exempts from disclosure information from personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy;
- (b)(7) exempts from disclosure information compiled for law enforcement purposes to the extent that the production of the information (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings; (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication; (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy; (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of a confidential source or, in the case of information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source ; (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law; or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger any individual's life or physical safety;
- (b)(8) exempts from disclosure information contained in reports or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, or on behalf of, or for use of an agency responsible for regulating or supervising financial institutions; and
- (b)(9) exempts from disclosure geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

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**PORTIONS OF OPERATION COMPROMISED**

The following portions of PBSUCCESS field operations have been compromised or must assume to be compromised.

1. Plans for ingress of arms:

- a. [REDACTED] Finca [REDACTED] Plan. (b)(1)
- b. Puerto Barrios plan (b)(3)
- c. Gualan Plan
- d. Rail tank Car Plan

2. Air drop plan for Amatitlan DZ

3. Pilot defection Plan

4. Intent to disrupt internal communications

5. Especial interest in the following areas

- a. Coban
- b. Zacapa
- c. Jutiapa
- d. Mazatenango
- e. Quezaltenango
- f. Quiche
- g. Puerto Barrios
- i. San Jose
- j. Guatemala City

6. Intent to use wireless radio for communications

7. Organization sponsorship of Guatemalan delegates to SUMMIT and possible the fact that SUMMIT was sponsored by PBSUCCESS.

8. List of SECANT's people in the nine primary areas of operations.

9. List of Semantic's people

(b)(3)

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~~SECRET//NOFORN~~ Finca

GUAT 723

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

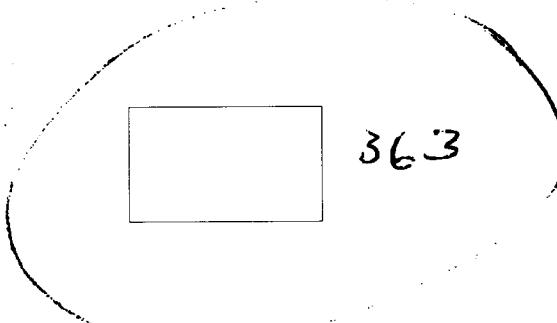
Finca compromised

ARMS INGRESS- Tank Car Plan GUAT 757

Robert O. Saravia, whose name( according to Arbenz) was included on SEMANTIC'S list seized by police, was called to the Palacio and cordially received by Arbenz. Saravia was questioned about ESSO tank car movements and Saravia gathered that Arbenz was worried about the use of tank cars to transport arms.

 FINCA 363(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

Semantic advised four tons equipment departing 27 May.  
Should not pick up until go given.

  
363(b)(1)  
(b)(3)~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

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Memoandum to C/P

Subject: Persons Involved in Guatemalan Government Move against Plot  
Thus far the following persons have been reported as having taken refuge in embassies or as having been arrested by Guatemalan authorities:

Domingo Góiscolea - Took refuge in Ecuadoran Embassy 30 May.  
Now in Ecuador.

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

Hector Góiscolea - Took refuge in Salvadoran Embassy, 30 May.  
Brother of Domingo.

José Bernabé LINARES - entered Salvadoran Embassy 31 May.

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

Rubén FLORES Avendaño - Arrested 31 May, freed 1 June.  
Brother of Guillermo, aide to Rufus.

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

Perfecto VILLEJAS - Disappeared 31 May and presumably arrested.  
Member of Rufus organization.

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

Gálberto MORALES - Arrested 1 June. Employee of IRCA.

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

Julio ARAGON - Arrested 1 June. Employee of IRCA.

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

Manuel GONZALEZ Vásquez - In Salvadoran Embassy.

(b)(1)

Aquilino MORALES - In Salvadoran Embassy.

(b)(3)

Vermín REYES Hernández - Reported in Salvadoran Embassy.

(b)(1)

Humberto MANCILLA Rivera - Reported in Salvadoran Embassy.

(b)(3)

Numerito CORDOVA Cetina - Took refuge in Ecuadoran Embassy.  
Brother of Juan.

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

Gabriel MARTINEZ del Rosal - Arrested 2 June. In charge of CEUA.

Rudulfo REMBOLDT - Arrested 2 June. Director of CEUAGE.

Manuel GRELLANA Cardona - Entered Costa Rican Embassy 3 June.  
One of principal members of Rufus organization.

Emilia CONDE Balero - Arrested 5 June. Employee of IRCA.

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

Concepción ESTEVEZ - Entered Papal Nunciatura 5 June. Head of  
anti-Communist market women's group.

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200 200

OPIN SING INFO OPIM

PRIORITY DIR CITE SHERWOOD 179

REF [REDACTED] 500

URGENT PRIORITY

TRYABLE DETERMINE IDENTITY OF SEMANTIC. IF SUBJECT STILL  
EXISTS THROUGH ENGLISH CABLE XIDEN AND BRIEF DESCRIPTION TO ENABLE  
OF INTELLIGENCE AND RETURN HIM.

BT  
200 200

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)  
(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

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3 June  
Government: Nuestro Diaria

headline: The vastest plot against the government - plans, codes and documentation in the hands of the authorities; the guarantees will be maintained:  
1. emphasizes that the proof shows clearly the involvement of many who "militate in the ranks of anti-communism."

1. for the government the plot is not a serious one for it has come completely under control, having in their power - who is directing it, preparing the rebels, the armament they are counting on, where they are training the civilians contracted for, for that purpose, and in short all the threads of the plot, in addition to the fact that they already know where the clandestine Radio is installed, who operates it and in what place."

(1. claimed that the information which was in view on his desk was not one thousandth part of what they had seized.)

X.

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2 June Prensa Libre

Senora Bernabela CASTILLO de Villegas, cousin of  
CASTILLO Armas, and her husband, Senor Perfecto  
VILLEGAS, arrested in Quezaltenango.

Daniel ORTIZ Flores, abutcher, arrested by Guardia Civil

Daniel GERARDO Espana GUEVARA, arrested, a captain?

Ramon ROBLES Loarca, captured and arrested.

1 June El Imparcial

Ricardo MIYARES Castellanon, agruculturist, arrested

Ruben FLORES Avendano, arrested

Javier Lafuente, mechanic, arrested

1 June La Hora

Gilberto Morales, arrested

3 June Prensa Libre

Seek asylum at Salvadoran embassy

Rodolfo REHWOLDT, director of CEUAGE  
Fermin REYES Hernandez  
Humberto MANSILLA Rivera

Seek asylum at Ecuadoran Embassy

Humberto CORDOBA Cerna, brother of Juan who  
is presently in exile.

2 June Diario de Centro America

court denies that Robles LOARCA being held

2 June El Espectador

MacDonald going to reveal that present plot is linked  
with one denounced in January.

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8 June 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: C/P  
FROM : PM STAFF  
SUBJECT : Extent of Operation Compromised

1. Compromise of the plan to use [ ] finca, [ ]  
[ ] as a storage and pick-up point for the movement of arms is (b)(1)  
indicated in KUBARK cables [ ] 413 (Att. A) and GUAT 712 (Att. B). (b)(3)  
On 8 May 1954 CALLIGERIS sent a letter (Att. C) to SEMANTIC directing (b)(3)  
him to dispatch trucks to the [ ] finca on 12 May 1954 to receive (b)(3)  
a shipment of arms and equipment. It is assumed that this letter of (b)(1)  
SEMANTIC's notes on the subject were among the papers confiscated by (b)(3)  
the Guardia Civil. SEMANTIC was advised in KUBARK cable [ ] 363 (b)(1)  
(Att. D) that four tons of equipment were departing 27 May 1954 for (b)(3)  
[ ] finca. [ ] was arrested by Guatemalan autho- (b)(1)  
ties [ ] (b)(3)

2. Gualan and Puerto Barrios Arms Ingress Plan (Att. E) (b)(3)

The details of SEMANTIC's part in preparing to receive arms entering through these areas were passed to him and therefore are assumed to have been among the papers confiscated. These plans include grid coordinates, time schedules, and identification signals. The Gualan plan also indicated that the city of Guatemala was divided for organizational purposes into four sectors.

3. Rail tank car plan (Att. F) for the introduction of arms was passed to KUBARK station in Guatemala with instructions that the contents were to be passed to SEMANTIC. This plan described the method by which the arms were to be shipped and the means of identifying the cars as well as the point where recovery should be effected. Instructions contained no names. It is expected that SEMANTIC's notes on this subject were confiscated. This is further evidenced by ARBENZ's questioning of [ ] (GUAT 757--Att. G), [ ] in Guatemala. (b)(1)  
[ ] was asked about tank car movements and related subjects. In (b)(3)  
addition, [ ] and [ ] (b)(1)  
employees of [ ] were arrested. [ ] was to have shunted (b)(3)  
arms-laden tank cars onto a siding on receipt of the tank car numbers. (b)(3)

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4. Aerial Para-Drop Supply Plan (Att. H)

On 20 April 1954 instructions were sent from LINCOLN to SEMANTIC via KUBARK Station, Guatemala City, indicating that an aerial supply mission would be flown in the future. No date was specified. The details contained in these instructions were:

- a. Approximate grid coordinates of the DZ.
- b. Number of aircraft participating in the drop (two).
- c. Number of bundles.
- d. Contents of bundles.
- e. Approximate hour of drop.
- f. DZ marking signal and compromise signal.
- g. Coastal "all clear" signal (ground to air).
- h. Instructions for disposal of parachutes and fittings.

5. Pilot Defection Plan (Att. I)

Information regarding the plan was passed to KUBARK Station in Guatemala to be discussed with and handled in conjunction with SEMANTIC. Instructions were contained in LINC 3071. Essential elements of these instructions were:

- a. [redacted] has promised asylum to all WSBURNT pilots defecting with aircraft to SOMERSET. (b)(1) (b)(3)
- b. SYNCARP and SKIMMER promise financial aid for families left behind and guarantee safety and welfare of defecting pilots.
- c. Radio frequency and call sign to be used on approaching SOMERSET. Also, alternate approach and signal to be used if without radio contact.
- d. Taxiing directions.

It is assumed that although this information was passed to SEMANTIC orally he made notes and that these notes have been confiscated. Therefore, it follows that the Guatemalan Government knows of [redacted] part in the above plan and probably surmises that SOMERSET is being used as an operations base by PBSUCCESS. (b)(1) (b)(3)

6. Intent to disrupt Internal Communications (Att. J)

In a letter to CALLIGERIS, SEMANTIC lists various intelligence items on which he is concentrating his effort. Among these he mentions the details of the communications system and the sabotage of the communications system. Specifically, he lists several points in Guatemala City which could be sabotaged by use of special equipment. He also states that he is trying to place his men in these strategic points or to bribe the men already there.

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7. Areas of Especial Interest (Att. J)

On 6 May 1954 CALLIGERIS sent an intelligence request to SEMANTIC. Translation of request was as follows:

"The exact addresses, street or avenue with their respective numbers, of the military garrisons in the following localities are urgently needed: Coban, Zacapa, Jutiapa, Mazatenango, Quezaltenango, Quiche, Puerto Barrios and San Jose.

"Together with the exact address I need a small map showing the location of the garrison with reference to the central square and the public buildings of most importance."

8. Planned Use of Wireless Communications

In the same letter mentioned in Paragraph 7 above, SEMANTIC was informed that a radio was being sent to him. SEMANTIC was cautioned "to bear in mind that it is an old trick to interrupt the current and thus determine whether there is a clandestine radio functioning by batteries."

It is possible that instructions for the Quezaltenango radio operator were confiscated (GUAT 717 - Att. K), since these were on an undeveloped roll of 35mm film which was passed to SEMANTIC. However, SEMANTIC questioned the purpose of two torn Quetzal notes which were to be used as identification by the incoming RRO when he came for his radio and instructions. Details of this identification plan were on the film and it, therefore, is thought that the film was bad [redacted] 438 - Att. L. (b)(1) (b)(3)

9. List of Names of Persons Attending SUMMIT

SEMANTIC had in his possession a list of the WSBURNT delegates to SUMMIT. GUAT 752 (Att. M) reports that this list was among the documents confiscated.

Further evidence of this is the government's denunciation of SUMMIT as "a farce in which the directors were in the service of foreign interests and betrayed our land as much as did the communists themselves." (La Hora, 2 June 1954). Nuestro Diario, 4 June 1954, stated that the anti-communist Congress in Mexico developed in an anarchical atmosphere, "A 'prepared farce,' the students who participated qualified it." Note: The essential parts of these articles were extracts of CNE's (Confederacion Nacional de Estudiantes) allegations released in the Mexican press at the end of SUMMIT.)

It is not believed that SEMANTIC had in his files any information that would indicate PBPRIME support of SUMMIT. The fact that he possessed a list of names of persons attending serves to indicate SYNCARP sponsorship of these persons.

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10. List of SECANT's people in the nine primary areas of operations, and SEMANTIC's collaborator file.

It is not known exactly what lists these are nor the names of the people which may have been contained therein. However, there is a possibility that the list of names is a rough compilation from which the attached list (Att. N) was extracted. SEMANTIC and SECANT, on their most recent trip to WSHOCFS discussed with CALLIGERIS their inner assets and brought with them lists of people which could be counted on in varying degrees to support a revolutionary attempt. From these lists a preliminary tentative organizational structure was planned, the result of which is the attached roster.

Supporting evidence of the compromise of these lists has not been forthcoming, since the government has not, to the best of our knowledge, made pick-ups of listed persons, neither among civilians nor in the army.

11. General Instructions to Organizers

It is possible that a copy of the above paper in Spanish (see attached translation) was among the documents confiscated. It contains no concrete details except for naming types of weapons to be utilized and serves only as a guide for the organizers. However, the pattern of preparation is there and the modus operandi.

Information contained in the following newspaper comments may in part have been the result of the compromise of this document:

3 June 1954-Nuestro Diario

The largest plot against the government - plans, codes and documentation in the hands of authorities: Article emphasizes that the proof shows clearly the involvement of many "who militate in the ranks of anti-communism."

For the government the plot is not a serious one for it has come completely under control, having in their power - who is directing it, preparing the rebels, the armament they are counting on, where they are training the civilians contracted for, for what purpose, and in short all the threads of the plot, in addition to the fact that they already know "where the clandestine radio is installed, who operates it and in what place."

3 June 1954-Impacto

"The conspirators were organized in a military type organization but which had in addition the elasticity necessary to cover the other aspects of the affair. They counted on people trained in such tasks as the recruitment of individuals, the enlisting of

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civilians and soldiers, and the proper instruction of groups of saboteurs who within the country would carry out acts to weaken the legitimate resistance of the government.

- a. Link with Puerto Barrios--some groups already acting is proof.
- b. Two kinds of plotters: those opposed to the present regime and the revolutionary parties and those with foreign connections representing interests that, at the moment, the Minister (MacDonald) does not wish to analyze."

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CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

DATE : 1 JUNE 54

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ROUTING	4
1	5
3	6

TO : DIRECTOR  
FROM : LINCOLN  
ACTION: WH (PBS)(1-3)  
INFO : WH (4), DCI (5), D/DCI (6), DD/P (L)(7), SA/PC/DCI (8)

LINC 3367 (IN 12969)

0507Z 1 JUN 54

ROUTINE  
PRECEDENCE

TO: OPIM

INFO: DIR

CITE: SLINC

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

RYBAT PBSUCCESS

REF: LINC 3328 (IN 12824)

FOR CADICK

1. WSBURNT PRESS ANNOUNCED SEMANTIC IN DTFROGS EMBASSY AND BROTHER HECTOR IN ECUADORAN EMBASSY. DATED 31 MAY.
2. GUAT ADVISED ESSENCE RECEIVED FOLLOWING FROM SEMANTIC:
  - A. SEMANTIC BROTHER NOT SEMANTIC IN DTFROGS EMBASSY (NOTE CONTRARY TO PARA 1 ABOVE).
  - B. UNIDENTIFIED MAPS LISTS DZ SITES AND OTHER DATA SEIZED. CLAIM GRID MAP NOT COMPROMISED.
  - C. WSBURNT DELEGATES TO ANTI-COMMIE CONGRESS MEXI IN GRAVE DANGER IF RETURN. FYI [ ] INFORMED TO WARN DELEGATES (b)(1)  
(b)(3) IF NOT TOO LATE.
  - D. STATED UNABLE TO WARN PERSONS IN CODED LISTS REQUESTING THIS BE DONE. NEITHER LINC NOR GUAT KNOWLEDGEABLE ON THIS ITEM.
  - E. CLAIMS NO CODES OR NOTEBOOK SEIZED.

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1 JUNE 54

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F. REQUESTED QUAT DETERMINE CONTENTS LETTER FROM  
SECANT TO [REDACTED] BELIEVED IMPORTANT. QUAT WITHOUT (b)(1)  
CONTACT OR KNOWLEDGE WHEREABOUTS SECANT. [REDACTED] BELIEVED IDENTI- (b)(3)  
CAL WITH [REDACTED] MENTIONED YOUR [REDACTED] 257 (IN 472(b)(1),  
POSSIBILITY THIS CONTAINED INSTRUCTIONS RE FLIGHT TO SOMERSET. (b)(3)

G. STATED NO CORRESPONDENCE OR MONEY SEIZED.

3. FOREGOING RELAYED THROUGH CHANNELS IN SEMANTICS  
HANDWRITING DATED 2300 MAY 29. QUAT CONTINUING EFFORTS TO  
DETERMINE WHEREABOUTS SEMANTIC SECANT AND ESCOBILLA.

4. PRIOR RECEIPT YOUR [REDACTED] 408 (IN 12943) LINC REQUEST (b)(1)  
ESSENCE CONTACT [REDACTED] TO INFORM POTENTIAL PILOT DEFECTORS (b)(3)  
THEY IN DANGER AND MUST DEFECT AT ONCE. NO EVIDENCE [REDACTED] (b)(1)  
BURNED OR OTHER NAMES YOU SUGGESTED. THEREFORE WILL INSTRUCT (b)(3)  
GUAT ATTEMPT RECONSTRUCTION COMPLEX. WILL ADVISE.

5. ONLY SYNCARP CODE KNOWN IS ONE YOU FORWARDED TO LINC,  
WHICH IN TURN FORWARDED TO QUAT. ADVISE SOONEST IF ANY NAMES  
ON THIS LIST SHOULD BE WARNED IF YOU BELIEVE THIS TO BE CODED  
LIST REFERRED TO ABOVE BY SEMANTIC.

6. PIVALL REPORTED 4 INSTRUCTORS (ORGANIZERS) DEPARTED  
29 MAY FOR ADAM AND THOSE FOR BOND HANK AND IKE WOULD DEPART  
31 MAY. PARA 5 [REDACTED] 408 (IN 12943) INDICATED ORGANIZERS (b)(1)  
BEING RETAINED [REDACTED] REQUEST YOU CLARIFY WHETHER THOSE BEIN (b)(3)  
RETAINED INCLUDE ALL OR ONLY BOND HANK AND IKE. UPON CLARI (b)(1)  
(b)(3)

~~S F O R E T~~

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FICATION THIS AND SITUATION IN ADAM WILL ATTEMPT OBTAIN CONTACTS FOR ORGANIZERS AND ADVISE YOU.

7. VIEW UNCERTAINTY INTERNAL ORGANIZATION REQUEST YOU AND ONTRICH CONSIDER IMPLEMENTATION OF ARMS PLANS 5 AND 6 AS AMPHIBIOUS CACHING OPERATIONS WITHOUT BENEFIT RECEPTION PARTY REDUCE SIZE OF CACHES TO ABOUT 500 POUNDS EACH AND EMPLOY SMG TACTICS DNLENA DURING DARK MOON PHASE USING SWIMMER SCOUTS FLASHLIGHT SIGNAL ETC OBTAINING BEST POSSIBLE DESCRIPTIVE DATA FOR LATER RECOVERY. THIS MAY PROVIDE MEANS FOR RAPID MOVEMENT OUT OF WSHOOFS AS SITUATION THERE CONSIDERED VERY UNSTABLE. LINC WILL PREPARE AND ADVISE SUGGESTED SITES.

8. YOU AUTHORIZED TO PROCEED WITH SCHEDULED PENETRATIONS PROVIDING SEMANTIC HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF TRUE IDENS OR OPS.

9. SUBSEQUENT TO ABOVE LATEST INFO FROM GUAT INDICATES STRONG PROBABILITY POLICE IN POSSESSION OF SEMANTIC LIST. HAVE ALL OF ESSENCE PERSONNEL FORCED INTO HIDING TAKING MAXIMUM PRECAUTIONS.

END OF MESSAGE

~~SECRET~~

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